

The following statement shows the tons of coal and shale raised, persons employed, lives lost, &c., from 1878 to 1912:—

Year.	Output of Mineral.	Persons employed.			Tons of Mineral raised per each Person employed Underground.	Tons of Mineral raised per Life lost.	Persons employed per each Life lost.	Lives lost per Thousand Persons employed.	Number of Deaths.
		Above.	Below.	Total.					
Prior ...	709,931	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1878 ...	162,218	147	366	513	443	4,771	15	66.27	34†
1879 ...	231,218	...	...	802	...	115,609	401	2.49	2
1880 ...	299,923	...	...	1,038	...	149,961	519	1.92	2
1881 ...	337,262	...	...	963	...	337,262	963	1.04	1
1882 ...	378,272	...	...	1,043	...	189,136	521	1.91	2
1883 ...	421,764	361	888	1,249	475	210,882	624	1.60	2
1884 ...	480,831	393	890	1,283	540	160,277	421	2.34	3
1885 ...	511,063	338	1,145	1,483	456	170,354	494	2.01	3
1886 ...	534,353	392	1,213	1,605	440	*	*	*	0
1887 ...	558,620	388	1,111	1,499	503	139,655	375	2.66	4
1888 ...	613,895	414	1,275	1,689	481	153,474	422	2.36	4
1889 ...	586,445	466	1,251	1,717	468	146,611	313	2.37	4
1890 ...	637,397	512	1,334	1,846	477	79,674	231	4.33	8
1891 ...	668,794	416	1,277	1,693	523	167,198	423	2.36	4
1892 ...	673,315	485	1,196	1,681	563	673,315	1,681	0.66	1
1893 ...	691,548	590	1,298	1,888	533	138,309	377	2.64	5
1894 ...	719,546	506	1,393	1,899	516	119,924	316	3.16	6
1895 ...	726,654	525	1,274	1,799	618	145,331	360	3.33	5
1896 ...	792,851	590	1,347	1,937	588	12,013	29	34.07	66‡
1897 ...	840,713	531	1,381	1,912	609	210,178	478	2.09	4
1898 ...	907,033	556	1,447	2,003	627	907,033	2,003	0.49	1
1899 ...	975,234	554	1,599	2,153	609	325,078	717	1.39	3
1900 ...	1,093,990	617	1,843	2,460	593	273,497	615	1.62	4
1901 ...	1,239,686	688	2,066	2,754	600	413,228	918	1.09	3
1902 ...	1,365,040	803	2,082	2,885	655	682,520	1,443	0.69	2
1903 ...	1,420,229	717	2,135	2,852	665	355,057	713	1.40	4
1904 ...	1,537,838	763	2,525	3,288	609	384,459	822	1.21	4
1905 ...	1,585,756	833	2,436	3,269	651	264,293	546	1.83	6
1906 ...	1,729,536	1,174	2,518	3,692	687	288,256	615	1.62	6
1907 ...	1,831,009	1,143	2,767	3,910	662	152,584	326	3.07	12
1908 ...	1,860,975	992	2,902	3,894	641	372,195	778	1.28	5
1909 ...	1,911,247	1,159	3,032	4,191	633	273,035	599	1.79	7
1910 ...	2,197,362	1,136	3,463	4,599	634	137,335	283	3.55	16
1911 ...	2,066,073	1,365	2,925	4,290	706	147,577	306	3.26	14
1912 ...	2,177,615	1,130	3,198	4,328	681	241,975	355	2.08	9
Totals ...	35,475,236	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	256

* No life lost.

† Year of Kaitangata explosion.

‡ Year of Brunner explosion.

SECTION IV.—GENERAL REMARKS.

MINING OPERATIONS.

At the Hikurangi Colliery operations have been chiefly confined to pillar-extraction from the No. 3 section underlying the Waro limestone rocks. As the coal-areas owned by this company are fragmentary and of limited extent, boring is being resorted to for the purpose of prospecting the mine to the dip of the present workings. There has been a decrease in the annual output during 1912.

At the old mine of the Northern Coal Company, near Hikurangi, there has been a slight increase in output, but this mine is rapidly approaching exhaustion, a considerable proportion of the remaining pillars being much depreciated by thin stone bands. As a result of boring operations to the north of Hikurangi Township towards the hill, it is reported that a coal-seam averaging 10 ft. in thickness has been proved over 200 acres. The company are now engaged laying down a small colliery to work the newly proved area from a dip haulage-road now being driven from a point adjacent to the Waro limestone rocks. An upcast air-shaft, 195 ft. in depth, has been sunk to the coal-seam, at which a Waddell fan has been installed. This mine is being connected to the Government railway by a branch line of about half a mile in length. The Kiripaka Mine, also the property of this company, and formerly a considerable coal-producer, was worked out and closed during the year.

The Taupiri Coal-mines (Limited) have connected by main haulage-road their Taupiri West and Ralph's sections, and have considerably developed the Rotoiti section. A main haulage-heading is now being driven under Lake Wahi. At this company's Extended Mine considerable improvements have been effected by the alteration of the gradients of haulage-roads. For better